GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:266
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2009
BANK ROBBERIES
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of robberies from banks, ATMs and cash carrying vans of security agencies have been reported from various parts of the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) & (b): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as per their existing instructions, banks forward a copy of incident of robbery, dacoity, looting etc., inter alia, to the RBI immediately after the incident of crime against them. However, security agencies are not required to report such cases to RBI. The State wise details of such crimes against banks for the last 3 years i.e. 2005, 2006, 2007 and current year (till Sept. 2008 quarter) are given in Annex.

(c) RBI has reported that, though security arrangements at bank branches are primarily the responsibility of each bank,it has stipulated deployment of armed police guards in so far as Currency Chest branches are concerned.At other branches and ATMs etc.,the banks may devise their own arrangements, including deployment of modern security equipments, such as Alarm System, CCTV,collapsible door/shutters,night latches,grill gate to strong room, armoured cash vans and time-lock devices etc.

RBI has further reported that security measures implemented by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are reviewed in State Level Security Committee meetings convened periodically by the RBI. The Committee takes stock of the security environment in the state, discusses steps needed to be taken to strengthen security,and advises issues of necessary guidelines /instructions to banks.